

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 13695 171405Z

42

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06 FEAE-00

DODE-00 ERDA-05 DOTE-00 FMC-01 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06

SS-15 PM-04 /098 W

----- 021905

P R 171357Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1130

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13695

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, CA, US, GW

SUBJ: COMPETITION FOR CANADIAN NUCLEAR ICEBREAKER

REF: STATE 196753

1. EMBASSY HAS MADE DISCRETE INQUIRIES RE INFO REQUESTED REFTEL. IN VIEW OF REQUEST FOR EARLY RESPONSE, EMBASSY IS SENDING WHAT WE HAVE TO DATE AND WILL REPORT ANY ADDITIONAL INFO AS SOON AS OBTAINED.

2. INITIAL CONTACT WAS MADE WITH SCIATT AT CANADIAN EMBASSY, WHO WAS GENERALLY UNAWARE OF CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS PARTICULAR AREA. HE SAID THAT FRG HAS BEEN TRYING FOR SEVERAL YEARS TO INTEREST CANADIANS IN A NUCLEAR POWERED SHIP, WITH THE NUCLEAR PLANT TO BE BUILT IN FRG, BUT THAT CANADIANS HAVE NOT BEEN INTERESTED IN A PRESSURIZED VESSEL REACTOR.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY, CANADIAN SCIATT CONTACTED EMBASSY
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PAGE 02 BONN 13695 171405Z

TO SAY HE HAD TALKED TO ACQUAINTANCE AT GKSS AND

LEARNED THAT FRG CONSORTIUM, INCLUDING GKSS, INTER-ATOM, AND KWU, WOULD MAKE SALES PRESENTATION IN OTTAWA SOME TIME IN SEPTEMBER 1976. THE PROPOSED FRG NUCLEAR ICEBREAKER WOULD HAVE UP TO 80,000 SHAFT HORSEPOWER AND A GAS TURBINE AUXILIARY, WHICH WOULD NOT RPT NOT SERVE AS A SAFETY FEATURE, BUT PROVIDE EXTRA POWER WHEN NEEDED.

4. CANADIAN SCIATT WAS UNAWARE OF ANY GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN FRG AND CANADA RELATED TO SUBJECT PROGRAM.

5. EMBASSY LEARNED FROM FRG MIN OF INTERIOR THAT IN 1974 GKSS APPLIED FOR A LICENSE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CONTAINER SHIP WITH A NUCLEAR PROPULSION SYSTEM OF 80,000 SHAFT HORSEPOWER. ALTHOUGH THE INTEREST OF THE PURCHASER DIED, THE LICENSING PROCEDURE CONTINUED, AND AT THE BEGINNING OF 1976, FRG LICENSING AUTHORITIES ISSUED A LICENSE APPROVING THE NUCLEAR POWER SYSTEM AND PROPOSED SAFETY MEASURES FOR A CONTAINER SHIP. IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, IT APPEARS THAT IT WOULD NOT BE TOO DIFFICULT FOR GKSS TO OBTAIN LICENSING FOR A NUCLEAR SHIP PROPULSION PLANT OF UP TO 80,000 SHAFT HORSEPOWER.

6. CONGEN HAMBURG IS ALSO MAKING DISCRETE INQUIRIES AND MAY BE ABLE TO ADD TO WHAT WE CAN DEVELOP IN BONN. HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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